



## PRESS-RELEASE

### *The European Union holds a regional seminar on international arbitration for Central Asian specialists*

**Dushanbe, 5 October 2016 – In the framework of the Rule of Law Initiative of the European Union for Central Asia, a seminar on international arbitration will take place in Dushanbe on 6-7 October 2016, with support from the European Union and the Ministry of Justice of Tajikistan.**

The objective of the seminar is to create a dialogue and exchange of experience among members of the Central Asian and European communities of arbitrators, and to share advanced European expertise about the institutions and procedures of international arbitration in particular, with the objective of securing cross-border investment and facilitating the resolution of economic disputes.

High-level specialists from the Ministries of the Justice, Finance, Economy and Tax and legal specialists of other ministries, state agencies, Supreme Economic Courts, Presidential Offices, National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, lawyers and academics of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan will engage in a dialogue on best international –primarily European– regulations and practices along with experts from France, Germany, Greece and the United Kingdom especially. The seminar will aim at ensuring legal security for investment, improving the business climate and enabling sustainable economic development in the five Central Asian States.

At the Fourth Conference on Rule of Law (Astana, 14-15 October 2015), the Ministers of Justice of the EU and Central Asia “*encouraged the development of alternative methods of dispute resolution*” and “*noted that international investment may only develop if a stable level-playing field is established for business activities, including amongst other regulations and practices*”.

The EU – Central Asia Rule of Law Platform project acts as a support mechanism to facilitate policy dialogue and promote the measures contributing to legal reforms in each of the Central Asian countries. The Platform is being funded by the European Union to the amount of EUR 1,8 million and is implemented by IBF International Consulting.

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**Venue:** National Library of the Republic of Tajikistan, Dushanbe

**Date and time:** 6 October (14:00-17:30) and 7 October 2016 (10:00-16:30)

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IBF International Consulting  
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The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders. To this end the EU is active in Tajikistan since 1992 and provides approximately EUR 25 million annually in development assistance.